



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor  
Ted Stewart  
Executive Director  
James W. Carter  
Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801  
801-538-5340  
801-359-3940 (Fax)  
801-538-7223 (TDD)

February 25, 1998

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tony Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer *adg*

RE: Documentation of Phone Conversation, Duchesne County Asphalt Mine, M/047/028, Uintah County, Utah

Date & Time: February 25, 1998; 1015

Participants: Doug Nielsen, Duchesne County (435) 738-2468; Tony Gallegos, DOGM

I informed Mr. Nielsen that the Division had received his February 18, 1998 letter; however, more specific information was needed to describe why Duchesne County needed to begin pre-stripping prior to receiving the Division's final approval of their large mining operation submission. He provided the following additional points of interest:

- Minalable asphalt in the current pit is estimated to last one more year.
- Stripping of the overburden may take up to two years due to the limited availability of equipment to work specifically on the stripping.
- The equipment needed for stripping the material is available approximately 90 to 120 days per year due to budgeting and the priority of other projects.
- The bulldozer which is used to rip/mine the asphalt material is the same dozer to be used in the stripping operations.
- Due to the current highwall configuration, it would not be safe to conduct stripping and mining operations at the same time.
- The overburden stripping would need to be completed prior to their preferred season for mining the asphalt (during the colder temperatures, typically November to March).

Mr. Nielsen described the general sequence of events and an estimate of the time frames for this pre-stripping as: (1) constructing the access road up to the area to be stripped, approximately 2-3 weeks; (2) grub the area of vegetation, approximately 1 week, (3) strip the upper horizon topsoil material and stockpile it separately for use in reclamation; (4) strip the overburden materials and stockpile it separately for use in reclamation.

Page 2  
Phone Conversation  
M/047/028  
February 25, 1998

The phone conversation concluded with the understanding that I would document this information and forward it to Division management for consideration. Mr. Nielsen requested that the Division's response be faxed and mailed to him as soon as it was available.

jb  
cc: Doug Nielsen, Duchesne County Roads  
o:\m47-28ph.one